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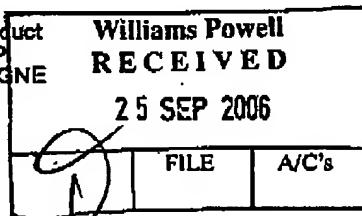
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Reference
IT/GM/N15209 ✓Application No./Patent No.
04253574.0 - 1227 ✓Applicant/Proprietor
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COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report (under R. 4 or R. 45 EPC) for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division :

Abstract

Title

The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract : 2

Refund of search fee

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 25 3574

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
X	US 5 002 647 A (TANABE ET AL) 26 March 1991 (1991-03-26) * the whole document *	1-10	INV. H01M8/10 C25D15/02 C25D9/08 H01M8/04
X	US 6 258 861 B1 (STECK ALFRED E ET AL) 10 July 2001 (2001-07-10) * column 2, line 47 - line 65 *	3-10	
A	US 2002/071915 A1 (SCHUBERT MARK ALAN ET AL) 13 June 2002 (2002-06-13) * paragraphs [0042] - [0046] *	6	
A	EP 0 745 702 A (FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM JUELICH GMBH) 4 December 1996 (1996-12-04) * abstract *	1-10	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
3	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
	The Hague	15 September 2006	Standaert, Frans
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 04 25 3574

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EPO file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

15-09-2006

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82